GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4425
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2002
FLUCTUATIONS IN AGRICULTURAL MARKET
VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the reports of the fluctuations in the Agricultural Market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): Prices of various agricultural commodities fluctuate in the market due to changes in supply of and demand for agricultural commodities. The Government`s price policy for agricultural produce is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the growers for their produce, and to safeguard the interests of consumers by making supplies available at reasonable prices. Towards this end, Government announces each season minimum support prices for major agricultural commodities and organizes purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies. The designated agencies intervene in the market and undertake procurement operations as and when the prices fall below the minimum support price fixed by the Government. Presently, the Scheme is in operation in respect of 25 commodities.

When prices of horticultural commodities of importance fall below the economic levels the Government of India, at the request of State Governments, launches Market Intervention Scheme for that particular commodity and in that particular season to prevent distress sale by farmers.